In the Claims

1-26   (Canceled).

27.   (Currently Amended) An automatic method of providing locales on a computer system comprising:

establishing a set of localization services, said set of localization services specifying localization services required for said locales;

associating with each of said localization services an attribute for identifying characteristics of the corresponding localization services without specifying a locale, wherein the attribute comprises,

a name that identifies a type of localization service; and

a value that further distinguishes said each of said localization services among other of said localization services having said name; and

defining a first locale that specifies a set of attributes of a first set of said localization services.

28.   (Canceled)

29.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27, wherein said establishing comprise building a structure that references each of said first set of localization services.

30.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27, wherein said localization services comprise at least one of text services, input services, formatting services and presentation services.

31.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27, wherein said defining comprises storing a locale file on a computer executable medium coupled to said computer system.

32.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27, wherein said method is performed at an operating system level.

33.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27, further comprising:

generating a services database from said set of localizing services.

34.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27, further comprising:

generating an index of said set of localizing services based on said attributes for each service.

35.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27, wherein said characteristics are locale-related characteristics.

36.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27, wherein the set of attributes does not specify a locale.

37.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27, wherein the set of attributes does not include references to language for a locale.

38.   (Currently Amended) An apparatus of providing locales on a computer system comprising:

means for establishing a set of localization services, said set of localization services specifying localization services required for said locales;

means for associating with each of said localization services an attribute for identifying characteristics of said each of said localization services without specifying a locale, wherein the attribute comprises,

a name that identifies a type of localization service; and

a value that further distinguishes said each of said localization services among other of said localization services having said name; and

means for defining a first locale that specifies a set of attributes of a first set of said localization services.

39.   (Canceled)

40.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 38, wherein said means for establishing comprises means for building a structure that references each of said first set of localization services.

41.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 38, wherein said localization services comprise at least one of text services, input services, formatting services and presentation services.

42.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 38, wherein said defining comprises means for storing a locale file on a computer executable medium coupled to said computer system.

43.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 38, wherein said method is performed at an operating system level.

44.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 38, further comprising:
        means for generating a services database from said set of localizing services.

45.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 44, further comprising:
        means for generating an index of said set of localizing services based on said attributes for each service.

46.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 38, wherein said characteristics are locale-related characteristics.

47.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 38, wherein the set of attributes does not specify a locale.

48.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 38, wherein the set of attributes does not include references to language for a locale.

49.   (Currently Amended) A machine readable medium having executable instructions to cause a processor to perform a method for providing locales, comprising:

establishing a set of localization services, said set of localization services specifying localization services required for said locales;

associating with each of said localization services an attribute for identifying characteristics of said each of said localization services without specifying a locale, wherein the attribute comprises,

a name that identifies a type of localization service; and

a value that further distinguishes said each of said localization services among other of said localization services having said name; and

defining a first locale that specifies a set of attributes of a first set of said localization services.

50.   (Canceled)

51.   (Previously Presented) The machine readable medium of claim 49, wherein said establishing comprises building a structure that references each of said first set of localization services.

52.   (Previously Presented) The machine readable medium of claim 49, wherein said localization services comprise at least one of text services, input services, formatting services and presentation services.

53.   (Previously Presented) The machine readable medium of claim 49, wherein said defining comprises storing a locale file on a computer executable medium coupled to said computer system.

54.   (Previously Presented) The machine readable medium of claim 49, wherein said method is performed at an operating system level.

55.   (Previously Presented) The machine readable medium of claim 49, wherein the method further comprises:

generating a services database from said set of localizing services.

56.   (Previously Presented) The machine readable medium of claim 49, wherein the method further comprises:

generating an index of said set of localizing services based on said attributes for each service.

57.   (Previously Presented) The machine readable medium of claim 49, wherein said characteristics are locale-related characteristics.

58.   (Previously Presented) The machine readable medium of claim 49, wherein the set of attributes does not specify a locale.

59.   (Previously Presented) The machine readable medium of claim 49, wherein the set of attributes does not include references to language for a locale.

60.   (Currently Amended) A method of providing locales on a computer system using a set of localization services, said set of localization services associated with an attribute and said attribute associated with a locale, the method comprising:
loading said locale by retrieving, using said attribute, said set of localization services without reference to language of any locales associated with said attribute, wherein said attribute identifies characteristics of each of the said set of localization services and comprises,

a name that identifies a type of localization service; and

a value that further distinguishes said each of said localization services among other of said localization services having said name.

61.   (Canceled)

62.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 61, wherein said characteristics are locale-related characteristics.

63.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 60, wherein said attribute does not specify a locale.

64.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 60, wherein said localization services comprise at least one of text services, input services, formatting services and presentation services.

65.   (Currently Amended) An apparatus of providing locales on a computer system using a set of localization services, said set of localization services associated with an attribute and first attribute associated with a locale, comprising:

  means for retrieving first locale, using said attribute, said set of localization services without reference to language of any locales associated with said attribute, wherein said first attribute identifies characteristics of each of the said set of localization services and comprises,

    a name that identifies a type of localization service; and

    a value that further distinguishes said each of said localization services among other of said localization services having said name; and

  means for loading first locale using said localization services.

66.   (Canceled)

67.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 66, wherein said characteristics are locale-related characteristics.

68.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 65, wherein said first attribute does not specify a locale.

69.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 65, wherein said localization services comprise at least one of text services, input services, formatting services and presentation services.

70.   (Currently Amended) A method of providing a localization service on a computer system using the set of localization services, where each localization service is associated with a first attribute, and using a set of locales where each locale is associated with a second attribute, the method comprising:

    searching a set of localization services with a third attribute and reference to more than one locale taken from the set of locales, wherein said first attribute identifies characteristics of each of the said set of localization services and comprises:

        a name that identifies a type of localization service; and

        a value that further distinguishes said each of said localization services among other of said localization services having said name.

71.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 70, wherein the third attribute comprises at least one of the first attribute and the second attribute.

72.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 70, wherein said searching the set of localization services comprises:

    generating a set of sub-searches by searching the set of localization services with the third attribute and reference to one locale taken from the set of locales; and

    conducting each sub-search in the set of sub-searches.

73.   (Canceled)

74.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 70, wherein said characteristics are locale-related characteristics.

75.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 70, wherein said localization services comprises at least one of text services, input services, formatting services and presentation services.

76.   (Currently Amended) An apparatus of providing a localization service on a computer system using a set of localization services, said each localization service is associated with a first attribute, and using a set of locales where each locale is associated with a second attribute, the method comprising:

       means for receiving a third attribute; and

       means for searching the set of localization services with the third attribute and reference to more than one locale taken from the set of locales, wherein said first attribute identifies characteristics of each of the said set of localization services and comprises,

          a name that identifies a type of localization service; and

          a value that further distinguishes said each of said localization services among other of said localization services having said name.

77.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 76, wherein the third attribute comprises at least one of the first attribute and the second attribute.

78.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 76, wherein said means for searching the set of localization services comprises:

       generating a set of sub-searches by searching the set of localization services with the third attribute and reference to one locale taken from the set of locales; and

       conducting each sub-search in the set of sub-searches.

79.   (Canceled)

80.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 79, wherein said characteristics are locale-related characteristics.

81.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 76, wherein said localization services comprise at least one of text services, input services, formatting services and presentation services.

82.   (Currently Amended) A machine readable medium having a set of localization services which each localization service is associated with a first attribute, a set of locales where each locale is associated with a second attribute, and executable instructions to cause a processor to perform a method comprising:

    searching the set of localization services with a third attributes and reference to more than one locale taken from the set of locales, wherein said first attribute identifies characteristics of each of the said set of localization services and comprises:

        a name that identifies a type of localization service; and

        a value that further distinguishes said each of said localization services among other of said localization services having said name.

83.   (Previously Presented) The machine readable medium of claim 82, wherein the third attribute comprises at least one of the first attribute and the second attribute.

84.   (Previously Presented) The machine readable medium of claim 82, wherein said searching the set of localization services comprises:

    generating a set of sub-searches by searching the set of localization services with the third attribute and reference to one locale taken from the set of locales; and

        conducting each sub-search in the set of sub-searches.

85.   (Canceled)

86.   (Previously Presented) The machine readable medium of claim 85, wherein said characteristics are locale-related characteristics.

87. (Previously Presented) The machine readable medium of claim 82, wherein said localization services comprises at least one of text services, input services, formatting services and presentation services.